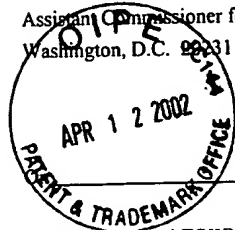


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 018867-000410US

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231



April 1, 2002

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Kendra Staedler

#10
AB
4/18/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Shuzo Fujimura et al.

Application No.: 09/328,939

Filed: June 9, 1999

For: SURFACE TREATMENT
METHOD AND EQUIPMENT

Examiner: Shamim Ahmed

Art Unit: 1746

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37
CFR §1.97 and §1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B are being called to the attention of the Examiner. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(d), copies of the references not included here can be found in Application No. 09/268,203, filed (Attorney Docket No. 018867-000210US). It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no

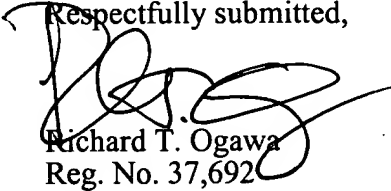
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Docket No. 018867-000210US
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representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

This IDS is being filed after the mailing date of the first Office Action, more than three months after the filing date, but prior to the Notice of Allowance or Final Office Action.

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard T. Ogawa
Reg. No. 37,692

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